Tatkal scheme

564. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints on its Tatkal scheme regarding charging of fare from passenger from first of last station of the train, the fixed charge passengers have to pay and the period in advance by which tickets are issued; and

(b) whether Government have examined these complaints, if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Some complaints were received regarding charging of fare under Tatkal Scheme from originating to terminating point of the train with boarding facility from intermediate station. These compaints were replied on the basis of extant position at that time.

.However, in view of this as well as informal feedback received, the matter was re-examined and the zonal Railways were authorised to take decision to allow booking under Tatkal scheme from end to end or keeping it free or allowing it from intermediate station depending upon the demand pattern.

The Advance Reservation Period (ARP) for booking tickets under Tatkal scheme is five days excluding the day of journey. This ARP has been kept with a view to enable passengers to book accommodation under this scheme through Internet also.

Since the scheme has been generally appreciated, at present, no review is deemed necessary.

Air-conditioned bogies

565. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to facilitate all mail and express trains bogies with air-conditioned facility;

(b) if so, by when Railways could provide such A/C facilities to all the passengers of mail/express trains in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that minimum 10 to 15 years time would be required for providing such facilities to the commuters; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Fund for Bolangir-Khurda rail line

566. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how much funds have been allocated, so far, to Bolangir-Khurda *via* Sonepur, Boudh, Nayagarh railway line project in Orissa;

(b) how much funds have, so far, been utilized;

(c) the reason for the delay; and

(d) the fixed target for completion of the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) An expenditure of Rs. 45.22 crore has been incurred till 31.03.2006. During 2006-07 an outlay of Rs. 23 crore has been provided. An outlay of Rs. 20 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2007-08.

(c) The project is being progressed as per the availability of resources.

(d) No target date of completion has yet been fixed.

Guidelines on early detection of sickness in SSI

567. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI has issued comprehensive guidelines in 2002 for detection of sickness in SSI's units so, identified for viability;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a fresh set of guidelines had also been issued again by the RBI in September, 2005 for revival of SSI's in the country;